

REMARKS

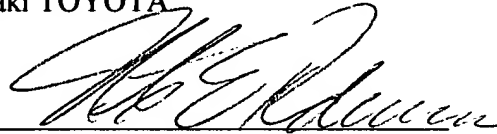
The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Preliminary Amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,

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April 30, 2001

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3. (Amended) The optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 1 [or claim 2] in which there is provided a detection means for detecting a consecutive recorded area where data are continuously recorded for a constant period of time on the optical disc or detecting a consecutive non-recorded area where no data are recorded for a constant period of time when the laser pickup is following the track of the predetermined area,

and the control means controls the laser pickup so that it perform a hold tracking in the consecutive recorded area or in the consecutive non-recorded area when the detection means detects the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area.

4. (Amended) The optical [disk] disc apparatus as defined in claim 3 in which the control means performs a control of switching of rotation speed of the optical disc at the hold tracking.

5. (Amended) The optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 3 [or claim 4] in which when the detection means receives next command while detecting the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area on the optical disc, the detection means interrupts the detection immediately.

8. (Amended) The method for controlling the optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 6 [or claim 7] which detects the consecutive recorded area where data are continuously recorded for a constant period of time on the optical disc or the consecutive non-recorded area where no data are recorded for a constant period of time in the first step, when the laser pickup is following the track of the predetermined area,

an which performs the hold tracking in the consecutive recorded area or in the consecutive non-recorded area in the second step when the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area is detected in the first step.

10. (Amended) The method for controlling the optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 8 [or claim 9] in which when receiving next command while detecting the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area in the first step, the detection is interrupted

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immediately.

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